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NEKOTA NO KOTO GA KI NI NATTE SHIKATANAI ch25

By: Oouta Rie

猫田のこと
気になって
仕方ない。
chapter
25

MIKIKO!
All Right!
I'm Ready!!
GO
AND MAKE LOTS OF FRIENDS!!
GO!

NEKOTA
Café
TOO CUR US ABOUT

OKAY!
I'll be going now!
MORN-ING!
GOOD MORNING!!
MORN-IN'
Buha!
looks like a Nameneko again!
He

Ahyahya
It's like Nekota leveled up!!
What is that supposed to mean.
HE LOOKS A LITTLE MORE MATURE WITH A UNIFORM ON, DOESN'T HE?
MACHAKO, WHAT'S WRONG?
You've been hiding yourself for a while now!
URK!
NO, UM, Y-YOU SEE...
MY GRANDMA
I CUT MY BANGS
SO I FEEL LIKE CRYING A BIT
I'm already crying though.
SHE DID?
IT DOESN'T LOOK THAT MUCH DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE.
Are you even looking.
EH
R-REALLY?!
YOU THINK SO?!
THEN I WON'T WORRY ABOUT IT!!

Ah!
Amane-san, the uniform really suits you!
It does?
I DON'T KNOW, I FEEL REALLY STIFF WEARING IT.
I MEAN, DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU FEEL UNEASY?
And I feel like I'm wearing nothing when I wear a skirt...
AAAAAAH!
STOOOOOOOP!
I can't get used to it
Huh
What's the problem?
Like that!
Stop doing inappropriate things
The uniform suits you
Ta-daaa!
THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WE DON'T KNOW HERE.
I'D SAY HALF OF THE PEOPLE IN OUR GRADE ARE FROM THE OTHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEARBY

yaa aaa y!!
I'm in the same class as Nekota and Machako!!!
Ah, they're handing out the class list!
Check if your name's on it.
This is so depressing.
DE-
JECTED
I'm the only one who's in a different class.
noise
This is our classroom! Year 1 Class A!
noise
Oh! They stuck up the seating arrangement on the black-board!
Your class is two classes down from ours. It's a little far.
He meant it in terms of feelings.
But Haruna's in Shijuei.
It's okay! Haruna is with you!
Okay ..!!
Hang in there!!

Hairbun-chan!!
Ehe hehe ♡
I DIDN'T THINK WE'D REALLY END UP IN THE SAME CLASS.
THAT MAKES ME SO HAPPY ♡♡
NEKOTA'S SEAT IS NEAR THE WINDOW. HOW LUCKY~
THE THREE OF US ARE SITTING UP IN THE FRONT
THEY ARRANGED IT BASED ON YOUR STUPENT NUMBER IN CLASS, HUH?
NEKOTA
OOTSUKA
SASAI
AMANE
HIRAGA
KINOSHITA
KASAI
INADA
THIS "SASAI-SAN" WHO'S SITTING BETWEEN ME AND MACHAKO I WONDER WHAT KIND OF PERSON THEY ARE
THAT WOULD BE ME!
HM?
I HAD NO IDEAAA AAAAA!!!
HAIRBUN-CHAN, YOU'RE CALLED SASAI?!
Just dangos on a stick?!*
Yup.
MY NAME IS SASAI NATSUMI.
Ugh
YOU GUYS ARE AS NOISY AS EVER.
!!

*T/N HAIRBUN-CHAN IS CALLED DANGO-CHAN AND THE SASA PART IN HER NAME MEANS BAMBOO. AND DANGOS ARE USUALLY SKEWERED WITH BAMBOO STICKS OTL

KASAI!!
Kasai's in the same school, too!
I didn't think this would happen!
This is great!!
WHAT-EVER.
I look forward to getting to know you this year!!
Let's hope we get along!!!
Put your hand away.
YEAH, YEAH.
Jeez.
YOU'RE SERIOUSLY WEIR...
Bu Lu
...Pft...
Ah! N-No, this is...
OHH!
KASAI IS LAUGHING!! YOU'VE DONE IT, MACHAKO!!
Huh ?!

CHATTER CHATTER
Hey
THERE ARE TWO GOOD-LOOKING GUYS OVER THERE!!
Yeah
THE ONE WHO'S STANDING LOOKS COOL.
BUT THE ONE WHO'S SITTING HAS A SCARY LOOK, DON'T YOU THINK?
THE GIRL WITH THE PONYTAIL IS TALKING TO THEM NORMALLY.
I ENVY HER.
SO NEKOTA'S SITTING NEAR THE WINDOW. HUH?
IT FEELS KINDA FRESH HAVING OUR SEATS SEPARATED!!
I GUESS
I say that, but our seats are still pretty close.
I'll be sure to continue observing you, so don't worry!!
Huh?
BY THE WAY, WHO'S SITTING NEXT TO YOU?
Ahh
THEIR BAG IS HERE, BUT I DIDN'T SEE THEM WHEN THEY PUT IT THERE.
WHAT WAS THEIR NAME AGAIN?
UGH
MATSUZAKI'S IN THE SAME CLASS AGAIN?!
I'M NOT SO FOND OF HER
DUDE KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN
HMMM
IF I'M RIGHT. IT WAS MATSUZAKI.
I THINK?

MATSUZAKI-SAN? SHE'S A REALLY GOOD PERSON.
SHE HAS A SMALL PROBLEM WITH GUYS, THOUGH...
PROB-LEM?
Yeah.
!?
SHE'S ENERGETIC, CHEERFUL,
AND I THINK SHE'S THE STRAIGHT-FORWARD TYPE?
SHE'S ALSO CUTE.
I feel like you guys are making me hear all this on pur-pose—
I SEE...
Heee eey!
Girl with the pony-tail over there!
HM?
ME?
YES, YOU!
THAT'S YEAR 1 CLASS A, RIGHT?!

COULD YOU GET MY BAG FOR ME?!
IT'S ON THE TABLE AT THE FRONT!
NEXT TO THE WINDOW!
THEN THAT MEANS...
YOU MIGHT BE THE ONE WHO'S SITTING NEXT TO NEKOTA...
ARE YOU FINE WITH THIS? WILL YOUR BAG BE OKAY IF I DROP IT FROM UP HERE?
IT'LL BE FINE!
I DIDN'T PUT ANYTHING IMPORTANT INSIDE SO IT'S OKAY!!
HEY, YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
ACK! Not good!
Quick! Do it quick!

HERE!
FWUMP
GOT IT!!
Thank you, ponytail girl!!
Hey!
Stop!

HEY, WHAT DID YOU DO?
THE BAG THAT BELONGS TO THE GIRL WHO SITS NEXT TO YOU.
I TOSSED IT TO HER
HUH?!
MATSUZAKI CHISA
MATSU-ZAKI...
CHI...SA?
yawn
CLASSES START TOMORROW.
STUDYING IS SO BORING.
HOW WAS YOUR CLASS, YUKKE?
THERE WERE SOME PEOPLE FROM OUR GRADE SCHOOL SO I MANAGED.
I SEE
That's great!

Don't let it get to you.
Mushroom
Mushroom
Mushroom
Mushroom
Mushroom
I hope we change seats soon.
I FEEL EXTREMELY UNCONFORTABLE WITH KASAI SITTING BEHIND ME
Whoosh
HM!?
I'll eat something once I get home.
I'm hungry...
BYE BYEEE.
SEE YOU TOMORROW.
BANG
WHOA!?
AH!

Di-
Did something
jump out...?
SORRY! ARE YOU OKAY?!!
...WAIT.
HUH?
YOU'RE
THE PONYTAIL GIRL FROM BEFORE...!
OH!
BAG GIRL!
SORRY! CAN YOU STAND?!
Ahh
YEAH.
Ow!
!?
Ah
LOOKS LIKE I GRAZED MY HAND WHEN I FELL.
GYA!
REALLY?! SORRY!!
BUT I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A DELIVERY RIGHT NOW.
I WANT TO TREAT YOUR HAND,
RUSTLE
Delivery?

HERE!
THIS PLACE!
AISUCCHAN RAMEN
MY FAMILY RUNS A RAMEN RESTAU-RANT.
I'LL BE THERE IN THE EVENING.
COME BY LATER! I'LL DO SOMETHING TO MAKE IT UP TO YOU..
BYE!
AND I'M REALLY SORRY!!
.....
RAMEN...

MATSUCCHAN RAMEN
Ah, found it.
rattle
Ah!
I KNEW IT!
I'M GLAD YOU CAME.
COME ON IN!

WE CLOSED SHOP.
MY MOM FELL ILL.
BUT I STILL HAD TO DELIVER MEALS BECAUSE THEY WERE ORDERED EARLIER.
I SEE.
HE'S NOT HELPING OUT?
WHAT ABOUT YOUR DAD?
I ONLY HELP OUT WHEN THE RESTAURANT IS OPEN DURING DINNER TIME, BUT
DELIVER-ING?
I WAS IN A HURRY DELIVER-ING MEALS.
SORRY ABOUT THAT
MY FATHER... YOU SAY?
HUH?
Hmph
MY FAMILY DOESN'T HAVE A FATHER.
YOU'LL LAUGH WHEN YOU HEAR THIS...
Would you listen?

ISN'T HE THE WORST?! ABSOLUTE SCUM, RIGHT?!
I don't know at which part I should even laugh at.
AND THE REASON WHY WE'RE IN DEBT IS BECAUSE HE BORROWED MONEY TO OPEN THIS RAMEN RESTAURANT!!
HE CHASED AFTER A WOMAN!! LEFT US IN DEBT!!
THAT MAN.. LEFT MY MOM AND RAN AWAY!!
Ohh
THANK YOU.
OKAY, IT'S DONE.
HM?
YOU'RE GOING TO EAT, RIGHT?
So
RAMEN!
YOU CAN'T PUT ANY FAITH IN THEM!!
ALL MEN ARE NO GOOD BECAUSE THEY JUST DO WHATEVER THEY WANT!
YOU BE CAREFUL TOO!
Understood?!

*T/N: CHINESE BBQ PORK.

SHE SAYS THE ONES THAT I MAKE
ARE DELICIOUS.
NOT THE THE CHAR SIU, THOUGH.
MY MOM PREPARES THE INGREDIENTS EACH AND EVERY DAY.
I WANT TO MAKE THE RESTAURANT MORE SUCCESSFUL
SO THAT WE CAN QUICKLY PAY OFF THE DEBT.
IT'S ALSO FOR MY MOM'S SAKE.
THAT'S WHY,
I'M GOING TO WORK EVEN HARDER AND HELP OUT AS MUCH AS I CAN!
...HUH?
WOW!! WHAT YOU SAID JUST NOW
SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING FROM JOUNETSU TAIRIKU*!
I KNOW, RIGHT?

*T/N: A DOCUMENTARY TV SHOW

HAHA!
!
AMANE!
I JUST REALIZED I HAVEN'T ASKED FOR YOUR NAME YET!
WHAT IS IT?
AMANE MIKIKO!!
500
I'LL CALL YOU MIKKI, THEN. AS FOR ME,
MY NAME IS MA...
PEOPLE CALL ME MIKKI, THOUGH.
I ALREADY KNOW!!
IT'S MATSU-ZAKI CHISA!!
Huh?! How do you know?!

Wait
WHA AAT?
SORRY, BUT I DON'T EVER PLAN ON GETTING ALONG WITH BOYS.
IS NEKOTA A BOY, BY ANY CHANCE...?
YOUR SEAT IS NEXT TO NEKOTA'S, SO I CHECKED!
NEKOTA!
CRACK
Boys are the enemy!!
HE'S A LITTLE WEIRD (?) BUT HE'S A GOOD PERSON YOU KNOW?
DID YOU GUYS GO TO THE SAME GRADE SCHOOL?
YEAH, BUT ONLY FOR A YEAR.
since I was a trans-fer stu-dent
I SEE
rattle
Well
ANYWAY, YOU SEEM LIKE A GOOD PERSON, SO I'M GLAD!
YOU CAN CALL ME CHISA.
GOOD TO MEET YOU!
YEAH! SAME HERE!!

RAMEN
See ya!
SURE!
PROP BY AGAIN NEXT TIME SO YOU CAN EAT MY MOM'S RAMEN!
at school
See you
Chisa, huh?
I think we'll get along really well.
She's seems like a ramen girl
who works hard.
I'M HOME.
WELCOME BACK.
MAMA, I ATE RAMEN,
SO I WON'T BE HAVING DINNER,
WHAT!? WHERE DID YOU EAT RAMEN....

Chi
sa?
AT CHISA'S PLACE!
ding
SHE'S...
ALREADY MADE FRIENDS .....?
HAHA.
THAT GIRL IS PRETTY GOOD.
AND THEEEN
noise
noise

she hates boys.
Are you serious...
I SEE
SHE LET ME HAVE SOME RAMEN.
THE CHAR SIU WAS DELICIOUS!!
I THOUGHT I'D GO AND EAT THERE WITH EVERYONE NEXT TIME.
I WANNA GO!
BUT, PROBLEM IS,
Okay
WE'LL SEE YOU WHEN IT'S TIME TO GO HOME.
WELL, I'M HEADING THIS WAY.
I'M GOING TO THE RESTROOM.
RATTLE
AH
MORNING!
MIKKI!
Oh
CHISA!

Somehow, she's giving off this feeling that she's similar to Amane-san...
So that's Matsuzaki-san...
Hahaha
So that's how a good student takes her bag, huh!
I'M ACTUALLY A GOOD STUDENT, YOU KNOW?
OF COURSE I DID. I JUST NEEDED TO ESCAPE YESTERDAY.
YOU CAME NORMALLY TODAY!
He's not with you?
WE WERE TOGETHER EARLIER,
BUT THEN HE WENT TO THE REST-ROOM...
Huh?
WHERE'S THIS NEKOTA PERSON YOU MENTIONED YESTERDAY?
DON'T CALL ME "THIS."
CHISA, THIS IS NEKOTA.
Oh!
THERE HE IS!
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT ME?
step

AH.
I'M NEKOTA, YOUR NEIGH-BOR.
NICE TO MEET YOU.

HUH...?
RATTLE
WHAT'S WRONG, CHISA?
DON'T YOU "WHAT'S WRONG" ME...
WHAT IS THIS?!
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PULL?! IS NO ONE SEEING THIS?!
はっ?

??
?
SORRY FOR GETTING UPSET.
SORRY, YOU KNOW WHAT, NEVERMIND
Ha
HAHA, HOW STUPID
Hmph
THAT'S RIGHT, HE'S A BOY, AFTER ALL...
you do this...
...After doing this,
I wonder what that was all about with Chisa earlier....
Maybe she hates Nekota, too?
Because he's a boy??
BATTLE
SURE.
COULD YOU READ OUT THIS PART, PLEASE?
NEKOTA-KUN,

FACE FACE FACE FACE...
FACE.
FACE FACE
FACE FACE FACE FACE FACE
Nekota-kuuuuuun
Kyaaaaaan

N-
NO...
Is it just me...?!
Even the teacher ignored it?
Why?
STAAA
ARE
Do you... need something?
UM
...
rattle
OKAY
THAT WAS EXCELLENT.
All right, next is...

haha...

...MAYBE I'M JUST TIRED...

CHISA, YOU'RE GOING HOME?

HUH?

Bye

PLEASE TELL THE TEACHER FOR ME.

Yeah

I SAW SOMETHING UNBELIEVABLE TODAY AND IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE I'M TIRED.

'KA AAY.

Take care!

Really?

Eyes eesh

SWAY
HUH?
MATSUZAKI WENT HOME?
An
SHE DIDN'T LOOK WELL, SO...
SHE SAID SHE WAS TIRED MAYBE THINGS GOT TOO BUSY AT HOME AND SHE WORKED TOO HARD.
HUH?
LIKE WHAT?
DID.. YOU TELL MATSUZAKI SOMETHING ABOUT ME?
?
WHAT?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
NO... IT'S JUST,
TODAY SHE ACTED THE SAME WAY AS YOU DID WHEN YOU HAD JUST TRANSFERRED SCHOOLS.
sort of
?
NEVER-MIND...

Morning!
AS NEW !!
I'M GOOD
MORNING, CHISA-CHAN!
MORNIN'!
Ah CHISAAA!
YOU'RE AWFULLY CHIPPER TODAY.
WELL, I SLEPT A LOT YESTERDAY.
THANKS TO THAT I COULDN'T GET ANY HOME-WORK DONE
MORNING! YOU LOOK WELL!
OH, MIKKI! I MADE YOU WORRY YESTER... Morn-ing.

DAY...
WHAT'S WRONG, CHISA?
?
WH-
WHY!!?
WHUH!?
HUH?
WHAT?
IS SOME-THING WRONG...
GRIP
JUMP

DASH!!
WHOOOAAA
AAAAAA!?
!?
しゅ!!
HEY...
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
PUFF
WH-
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU ALL OF A SUDDEN...
YOU REALLY SURPRISED ME!
I'M THE ONE... WHO'S SURPRISED...
HUH?
がし
GRAB

WHAT IN THE WORLD
IS THAT GUY!!?
Nekota!! I'm talking about Nekota!!!
That guy?!
HUH?!
Huh?
THERE ARE GIRLS WHO EVEN SAID STUFF LIKE HE'S COOL OR HANDSOME.
NO, IT'S MORE LIKE THEY DON'T EVEN NOTICE IT.
HE HAS A FACE LIKE THAT, BUT NO ONE REALLY PAYS ANY ATTENTION TO IT.
BUT IT'S WEIRD FOR HIM TO LOOK LIKE THAT TWO DAYS IN A ROW, ISN'T IT?
I THOUGHT ABOUT IT A LOT AND TRIED TO MOVE ON.
I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST ANOTHER IMMATURE BOY DOING SOMETHING STUPID AND WAS JUST MESSING AROUND.
YESTERDAY...
OR THAT I WAS TIRED AND WAS JUST HALLUCINATING...

Huh?
Huh?
BOTH OF YOU WENT TO THE SAME GRADE SCHOOL TOGETHER, RIGHT?
WHAT DOES THAT GUY... LOOK LIKE?!
IS IT POSSIBLE... THAT HE ONLY LOOKS WEIRD TO ME?!
AM I WEIRD?!
WHAT IS THAT GUY?! WHAT IS HE?!!
Huh?
Just wait a second!!

Chisa, are you saying...
you can see
Nekota's cat face, too...!?

You said..
"too"...
...Huh?
WHAT !!?